MINUTES

OF THE ....

Sixty-fourth Annual Session

OF THE

North River Baptist Association.

HELD WITH

Carbon Hill Baptist Church, Walker County, Alabama.,

September 24, 25, and 26. 1898

OFFICERS:

J. H. McGuire, Moderator, Jasper, Ala.

J. S. Watts, Clerk, Oakman, Ala.

The next Session to be held with Union Grove Church, Fayette County, Ala., Commencing on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1899.

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JASPER, ALA.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Devotional Exercises.
2. Read Constitution, Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum
3. Presentation of Letters from the Churches.
4. Election of officers.
5. Call for Petitionary Letters.
6. Invite visiting Ministers not delegates to seats.
7. Receive Correspondence.
8. Return Correspondence.
9. Appointment of Special Committees:
    1. On Religious Exercises
    2. On Documents and Requests.
    3. On Nominations.
    4. On Finance.
10. Call for Report of Standing Committees:
    1. On Sunday Schools.
    2. On Sunday School Organization.
    3. On Baptist Young People's Union.
    4. On Temperance.
    5. On State Missions.
    6. On Home Missions.
    7. On Foreign Missions.
    8. On Denominational Education.
    9. On Religious Exercises.
    10. On Religious Literature.
    11. On Orphan's Home.
    12. On Prayer and Prayer Meetings.
    13. On Aged and Infirm Ministers.
11. Report of Treasurer.
12. Appoint Treasurer.
13. Call for Report of Special Committees:
    1. On Documents and Requests.
    2. On Nominations.
    3. On Finance.
14. Call for Report of Executive Com'ts.
15. Appoint Standing Committee.
16. Miscellaneous Business.
17. Read Minutes, call Roll and Adjourn.

PROCEEDINGS.

The Sixty Fourth Annual Session of the North River Baptist Association, met with Carbon Hill Baptist Church, on Saturday, Sept. 24th., 1898.

Promptly at 11, a. m. the body was called to order by J. S. Watts, the moderator being absent, Bro. J. H. McGuire was elected moderator pro tem.

Devotional exercises conducted by Bro. J. H. Longerier.

The Constitution, Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum were read by the Clerk.

PRESENTATION OF LETTERS FROM THE CHURCHES.

Brethren Zack Amerson and W. F. Sides were appointed to read the letters.

LIST OF CHURCHES AND DELEGATES.

Bethabara—*N. H. Harbin, *B. F. Pendley and *W. A. Kimbrell

Bethlehem—M. Nelson, W. J. Jones and B. F. Baker.

Berry Station—L. H. Baker, A. J. Hocutt, L. F. Gammon, and *J. W. Simpson.

Carbon Hill—*Geo. Moore, R. V. Goss, Geo. C. Anderson, J. E. Everett, J. I. McCollum and Jas. Murry.

Coal City—Willis M. Jackson, *Geo. Douglas, *John Wilson and *J. W. Randolph.

Jasper—J. H. McGuire, G. D. O'Rear, J. H. Longerier, Wm. Randolph, Jas. Hilton, *W. B. Appling, W. G. Davis, *J. F. Appling, *S. Lacy, W. R. Sawyer, *J. M. Shaw and *A. L. Files.

Liberty Grove—A. A. Sides, L. L. McCullers and J. M. Sides.

Liberty—C. A. Sims, *A. M. Hyde, *L. O. Howel and *C. C. Collins.

Mt. Zion—N. Thacker, A. J. Hegwood, *J. A. Thacker, *Wm. Patton *M. L. Jones and *D. R. Carter.

Mt. Joy—R. A. Baker, *J. M. Kimbrell, H. G. Amerson *W. M. Kimbrell and *J. T. Kimbrell,

Mt. Carmel—D. W. Brown, F. M. Harper and Alvin Douglas.

New Hope—F. M. McKey, *E. W Christian, *T. H. Boyd and * J. W. Bagwell.

Delegates absent at roll-call on adjournment are marked thus*

New Prospect—J. P. Mooney, L. P. Kiker, W. M. Brakefield, Jno. L. Wright, J. M. Williams J. E. Sherer and *J. Snoddy.

Oakman—J. S. Watts, *Luther Sides, *E. S. Carden.

Pleasant Grove—Jas. Rutlege, W. F. Sides, E. L. Thomas, J. B. Grace, Alvin Sparks, *Wm. Dutton and *W. R. Johnson.

Providence—*Wm. Savage, Isaac Brown, *J. J. Phifer, *S. E. Walton, B. F. Clements, and *Savage Douglas.

Pleasant Field—Jas. P. Handley, Jas. L. Grace and *Jacob Smith.

Saragossa—W. P. Smith, *C. S. Ferguson, D. S. Smith and *J. W. Smith, Jr.

Samaria—Leroy Williams, J. C. Danniel, R. F. Summer, W. T. Sherer, *J. B. Sherer and *G. H. Sherer.

Sulphur Springs—W. B. Earnest, *J. E. Kilgore, *W. J. Jones and Sherman Kilgore.

Townley—Wilburn Manasco, G. G. Bagwell and *E. L. Lankford.

Union Grove—J. M. Cannon J. N. Cannon and *Shepherd Willcutt.

Adjourned for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2 p. m. met pursuant to adjournment. Devotional exercises conducted by F. H. Watkins. Prayer by J. H. McGuire.

The Association was permanently organized by electing (by ballot) J. H. McGuire moderator and J. S. Watts clerk. called for petitionary letters.

Invited visiting ministers not delegates to seats; and brethern Zack Amerson, F. H. Watkins came forward and were received.

Received correspondence.

Harmony Grove Association—A. B. Batson and W. J. Killingsworth.

New River Association—W. B. McCollum.

Returned correspondence.

Harmony Grove Association: J. I. McCollum, R. V. Goss and W. P. Smith.

New River Association: R. A. Baker, J. W. Simpson

and L. F. Gammon.

Tuscaloosa Association : R. F. Sumner, F. M. Mackey and B. F. Freeman.

Clear Creek Association : Jas. Hilton, C. C. Collins and A. M. Hyde.

The following committees were announced by the moderator.

On Religious Exercises ; Pastor and deacons of Carbon Hill church and W. F. Sides.

On Documents and requests ; H. G. Amerson, Alvin Douglas and G. G. Bagwell.

On Nominations ; W. R. Sawyer, N. H. Harbin and D. W. Brown.

On Finance ; G. D. O'Rear, L. F. Gammon and W. G. Davis.

On motion, Report on Sunday schools was set for Sunday 9 a. m.

On motion Report on Sunday School Organization, was set for Sunday 9 a. m. to be read and discussed in connection with report on S. S.

Report on temperance was set for Sunday 3 p. m.

Committee on State missions being absent, Bro. J. H. Longerier was appointed to prepare a report.

On motion it was ordered that all three reports on missions be read at this time and discussed jointly.

Report on State missions was read by J. H. Longerier.

Report on Home missions was read by R. F. Sumner.

Report on Foreign missions was read by H. G. Amerson

On motion report of executive committee was read by G. D. O'Rear and discussed in connection with reports on missions. The reports on missions was spoken to by J. H. Longerier.

On motion the futher discussion of the reports on missions was deferred till after preaching at night.

The committee on Denominational Education being absent Bro. R. V. Goss was appointed to prepare a report.

On motion Bro. Jas. Hilton was added to the committee

on Religious Literature.

By request W. P. Cooper and R. F. Sumner was added to the committee on Temperance.

Adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.

At 7 : 30 p. m. The Associational Sermon was preached by Bro. F. H. Watkins of Howard College ; Theme, Personality of the Holy Spirit and his office.

After preaching subject of missions was discussed by Zack Amerson, W. P. Smith, W. R. Sawyer, Leroy Williams, J. I. McCollum and then continued till Monday morning.

Adjourned.

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION.

At 9 : 30 a. m. met pursuant to adjournment. Devotional Exercises conducted by J. H. McGuire : 23rd. Psalm was read, prayer by Bro. F. H. Watkins.

Report on Sunday Schools was read by J. H. McGuire.

Report on Sunday School Organization was read by J. S. Watts.

The above reports after being discussed jointly by J. H. McGuire, J. S. Watts, W. R. Sawyer, were adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your committee on Sunday Schools report as follows, to wit :—

1—On the 5th. Sunday, and Satuarday preceding, in July 1898, the annual S. S. Convention of this body was held with the Baptist Church of Jasper. The Convention adopted, and carried out as nearly as might be, a complete program with splendid subjects on the S. S. work, intersperred with suitable music and prayer praise services, all bearing on the subjects discussed. Several interesting papers were read by our lady teachers and Sunday School workers.

The following subjects were considered and discussed, viz.

"Christian Hospitality"

This Convention. Its aims. What shall we get out of it.

"The Water of Life".

"The Bible in the Sunday School".

"Woman's work in the Sunday School".

"Ought an unconverted person be allowed to teach in Sunday School?"

"The Pastor's Relation to the Sunday School".

"All for Christ".

"Can Evergreen S. S. be maintained in the country?"

"The Opportunities of the Primary Teacher".

"The Heavenly Home".

"The educational feature of the S. S. work".

"How to Retain Our hold upon Our Boys".

"Music in the S. S. —Its uses and abuses".

"Young People's Societies for Christian Work".

"Teachers and Teaching".

"How can we get and keep our young men and women in the S. S. ?"

"Our Children".

"The Kingdom of the Hearthstone".

"The Importance of the Sunday School to the Business World".

The Sunday Schools of various Churches were not as well represented as your committee had expected they would be, but we had a delightful meeting, and believe much good was accomplished.

The next annual Sunday School Convention of this Association was appointed to be held at Carbon Hill on the 5th. Sunday, and Saturday preceding, in July, 1899.

2—On the 1st. Sunday in September a Sunday School Rally was held with the Baptist Church at Cordova, conducted by W. R. Sawyer, which was well attended—especially by the young people of Cordova, and we have reason to believe good seeds were sown, and that the fruit will appear in due season.

3—The Committee would futher report, that on the 11th., 12th. and 13th. of September, according to appointment made by your Chairman, as President, of the Walker County international and inter-denominational Sunday School Association, Sunday School addreses were delivered at Carbon Hill, Cordova and Oakman by Joseph Carthell, of Anniston, a field worker for the Alabama State S. S. Association, and from his report the meetings were well attended and much interest was manifested in the work, and no doubt the Sunday School cause recieved an uplift

4—We have been delighted to learn that our good Bro. W. G. Davis has been devoting special effort to organize new sunday schools where none existed, and to encourage, strengthen and build up weak sunday schools in the country churches since our last annual meeting, report of which was made verbally by Bro. Davis at our annual S. S. Convention in July, and we heartily commend him for it, and trust this Association may encourage him to prosecute this well begun work with renewed dilligence.

5—In conclusion, your Committee beg to recommend that this Association urge upon her Churches the importance and the necessity of a more perfect and effecent Sunday School organization, and of better and fuller representation in our annual Convention: that the territory embraced in this Association be, for convenience, devided into four Sunday School Districts, and that in each District there be held, annually, or quarterly, a District S. S. Convention: that for each District, a District Chairman and Secretary be appointed by this Association, whose duty it will be to call and hold said District Conventions, and that at one of said District Conventions delegates be appointed to the annual Convention of the Association, in addition to the delegates from the various Sunday Schools.

Respectfully Submitted.

J. H. McGuire.

Chairman S. S. Committee.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOL ORGANIZATION.

Your Committee appointed to organize Sunday Schools in the Lounds of this Association submit the following report.

Soon after adjournment of the body we surveyed the field to be worked and then divided the Churches among the Committee, so as each Committeeman could work among the Churches nearest his home.

We went to work of organizing, and now report 23 Schools in the Association; while last years report showed only 14 Schools. One of our Schools however is a mixed School.

Bro. W. G. Davis of Jasper has rendered great help in organizing Sunday Schools. The very interesting Sunday School Convention held at Jasper, July, 30 and 31. gave new life and zeal to the Sunday School workers. Your Committee did hope to be able to report a School in every Church in the Association; but Lebonon, Bethel, Sulphur Springs, Union Grove and Bethpage have no Schools; we don't know how many of these schools are Evergreen.

Our brethern in some of our Churches are very careless and indifferent about a Sunday School in their Churches. They need some one or something to arouse an interest in this very important work, for the salvation of Souls depends largely on this great work. What can be more important to a church than for its members to meet, study and teach Gods Word?

Respectfull Sudmitted

J. S. Watts, Chairman.

On motion a committee was appointed to divide the Association into four Sunday School districts: Committee W. G. Davis and C. C. Kelley.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO DIVIDE THE ASSOCIATION INTO SUNDAY SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

We your committee on dividing the Association, Recomend the following.

1st. District; Jasper, Samaria, New Prospect, Bethpage, Coal City, Mt. Carmel and Pleasant Grove.

2nd. Carbon Hill, Townley, Saragossa, Liberty Grove and Liberty.

3rd. Oakman, Bethel, Lebonon. Mt. Zion, Providence, Pleasant Field and Parrish.

4th. Berry Sta., Bethabara, Bethlehem, Union Grove, Sulphur Springs, Mt. Joy, Oragonia and New Hope.

We futher recomend that the Chair appoint a tempoary Superintendant in each district, whose duty it shall be to organize Sunday Schools and hold three Sunday School Conventions or Rallies in each district annually. The reports of the work of the various district Superintendants to be made to the executive committee of Sunday School Convention of the Association.

Respectfully Submitted,

W. G. Davis, Chairman.

The Moderator appointed the following District Sunday School Superintendants.

1st. District; W. G. Davis.
2nd. ,, R. V. Goss.
3rd. ,, J. S. Watts.
4th. ,, R. A. Baker.

At 11 a. m. Bro. J. H. Longerier preached a missionary Sermon to a large and attentive congregation, at the close a collection was taken for missions,

Amounting to $17 63

Preaching at the school building by Bro. Zaek Amerson collection for missions $2 25

Total Collection $19 88

Adjourned for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Met at 3 p. m. and was led in prayer by Bro. R. A. Baker, song by the choir.

Report on Temperance was read by Bro. J. I. McCollum and after being spoken to by several brethern was adopted.

WE THE COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING REPORT.

We are of the opinion that intemperance is decreasing at a rapid rate in our country, and especially is this true among the church members of the churches. Many of our brethern who a few years ago, believed that there was no harm in dram drinking are now total abstainers. May the Lord hasten the day when not a single member of the churches will touch the unclean thing. And thus teach the lesson of Temperance, Sobriety and Christian deportment. For we know that out of intemperance come the most and greatest evils, both to church and good society. The Bible says "No drunkard shall enter the kingdom of heaven" "Wine is a mocker and strong drink is raging."

Respectfully Submitted,

J. I. McCollum Chairman.

On motion it was decided to meet at 7 p. m. and continue the business of the Association.

Adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.

At 7 p. m. reasembled; devotional exercises conducted by Bro. Jas. Hilton.

Opening speaches limited to 15 minutes, all other speeches to 5 minutes.

Report on Denominational Education was read by Bro. R. V. Goss, after being discussed by J. H. Longerier and others was adopted.

DENOMINATIONAL EDUCATION.

We take it for granted that by the words— "Denominational Education" is meant education or information on the doctrines, teachings and practices of our denomination, together with some knowledge of its progress, work and history.

That it is important for us to be well informed on the doctrines, teachings and practices of our denomination, and know something of its history, progress and work is quite obvious.

As Paul says, we should be ever ready to give a reason for the faith that is in us.

We cannot study the doctrines and teachings of our denomination without being strengthened in our Christianity, and becoming more loyal to our church. We cannot be loyal and zealous to that cause of which we are ignorant, and we cannot fail to become interested in a just and righteous cause on which we are well in-

formed.

Let us study to know the doctrines and teachings of our beloved denomination; and let us study to inform ourselves as much as we can on the history of our church, and learn of the noble work and progress it has made and is making, and thus be inspired to more zeal in our church work. We should all take and read the Alabama Baptist, and all other denominational history and literature we well can, and last but not least, let us read prayerfully and thoughtfully each day that Book of books, dictated by Him who spoke as never man spake, and written by men who wrote as the Holy Spirit moved them; for in this sacred Book, without embellishment, without comment, without adding to or taking from are found lessons fuller of wisdom, of truth, of comfort and of joy than any where else; and also found, we think, every doctrine and teaching of our denomination.

We ought not to forget our Denominational Schools in the state. The Judson of Marion, for the education of our girls: a school now excellent for proficiecy along all the lines of work.

Also Howard College at East Lake, which is now under the management of one of the best corps of teachers it has had for years. Brethern these Institutions belong to the Baptist State Convention of Alabama, and ought to be patronized by the denomination.

The Judson is now out of debt and only needs the patronage of the denomination, to soon be on a solid basis. While Howard owes a debt of more than $20,000. It would soon not owe a cent if the boys of Baptist parents were only educated there. We see no reason why our boys should be sent to the University and else where, when they can be educated just as well and even better at our own school. Brethern let us take care of our own Institutions.

R. V. Goss,

Chairman.

Report on Religious Literature was read by Bro. Jas. Hilton, and after discussion was adopted.

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

We recommend the Southern Baptist lesson helps for our Sunday Schools; The "Alabama Baptist," Baptist Standard and "Western Recorder" for our homes and "Baptist Union," published at Chicago, and the publications of the Baptist Mission Rooms of Baltimore for our Baptist Young People's Unions. We are living in an age when the printing press is turning out millions of books annually, good, bad and indifferent. It is a difficult matter for the best informed to select out of this confused mass wholesome reading matter for our young people. They will read something. If we fail to provide the best, they are almost sure to get the worst; for Satan and his angels are more active and energetic in sowing tares

than the good are to sow wheat. The Holy Spirit hath said: "The children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light," Luke 16 : 8. Then it is clearly the duty of Christian parents to occupy the ground first. General Forest was once asked by an admiring lady friend to explain how he managed always to win his battles. The rugged old warrior bluntly replied: Madam I got there first with the most men." That is the idea pre-occupation. If we can first store the mind with useful knowledge there will not only be no room for vicious, but there will be no taste for it. Let us then, out of this great adundance of cheap literature, good, bad and indifferent, select the best and store the mind with good and useful knowledge.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jas. T. Grace, Chairman.

On motion report on Orphan Home was deferred till morning,

Report on Prayer and Prayer-meetings was read by Bro. J. M. Williams and after being dicussed by several brethern was adopted.

REPORT ON PRAYER AND PRAYER MEETINGS.

We your committee on prayer and prayer-meetings recommend that all christians in a congregated capacity should meet at the church or from house to house and hold a prayer service; feeling as we do our need of the Divine Grace; Thus imitating the example of our Divine Lord in being often engaged in solemn and earnest prayer. Also hearing the admonitions of our Lord and the Apostels "To pray without ceasing" and praying with all prayer and with giving thanks, and that men ought to pray always and not to faint, and our Lord's exortation, "Ask and ye shall receive, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you."

Your committee would earnestly urge that secret prayer be offered by every one of God's dear children; like the lone Hebrew in his tent addressing a throne of grace and communing with God, which works an influence for good, and has power with God.

Also prayer around the hearthstone, amid the family circle, away from the fear and criticisms of the world, "where the stranger intermeddleth not" and where none but God can hear, and no one but God can answer. Also in great congregations, as many of our sins and transgressions are open to the eyes of men, our confessions should be made before God in the presence of his saints. Knowing dear brethern our need of the Divine grace in our hearts and knowing the need of the work of Holy Spirit in the awakening of sinners and converting souls into the kingdom of God's

dear Son; we need a revival in our own hearts; we need our friends saved; we need the kingdom of Christ forwarded and furthered; we need a "Revival in the midst of the years;" we need that Zion may travail and Sons and Daughters may be borned into the kingdom of Christ, for which may we ever pray.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. M. Williams,

Chairman.

Adjourned untill 8:30 a. m. Monday.

MONDAY MORNING SESSION.

At 8:30 a. m. Met pursuant to adjournment. Devotional exercises conducted by Bro. Zack Amerson.

On motion the moderator was authorized to appoint a standing committee on the Baptist Young Peoples Union.

The further discussion of missions was taken up, concluded and adopted.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

Your Committee on State Missions submit the following report: "The State Board of Missions is the organ of the Baptists of Ala. (1) in collecting and remitting contributions for Foreign and Home Missions; (2) in helping infant churches in important points where otherwise Baptist churches could not be established; (3) in prosecuting evangelistic work in the State at large for the further evangelizing and enlisting of our people in Christian work; (4) in doing missionary and colportage work where such is needed; (5) in caring for aged and disabled ministers and their widows and orphans against want; (6) in seeking to foster a spirit of fellowship and cooperation between churches in the master's service and bringing them to contribute to each other's upbuilding and mutual usefulness.

It will therefore be seen that the work of this Board is far-reaching and of the most vital importance. It calls for your money, your heart and prayers.

The Southern Baptist Convention is coming to work more and more through the States. There is a warrant in Scripture for thus aggregating the churches according to the political divisions of the country. Paul speaks of the "churches of Galatia, Asia, Macedonia, Achaia, Judea," and Prof. Ramsey has shown that these groups of churches are according to the political divisions of Paul's day. So we, in our inter-church work, may group our churches as "the churches of Maryland, Virginia, Alabama, Texas," etc. The reason for this is found not in the political authority of

any division, but in the fact that aggregates must follow and conform to fellowship, which, being dependent upon association, follows, in turn, the lines of associated life. Hence this Board is the organ of the Southern Baptist Convention for Alabama in eliciting, collecting and forwarding funds for its work and the distribution of its literature, and a medium through which it may educate the people in its work. It will become more and more a necessity just here.

Again, we that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and bear one another's burdens, so fulfilling the law of Christ. Hence it is the organ through which the churches that are strong may help the weaker sisters. So the Board has helped many an infant church to grow into a full grown body of Christ where otherwise Baptist would have had no representative. Nearly every city church in Alabama, and not a few country ones, now our largest contributors, has thus been built up. This work has been done with such efficiency in the past that now but little remains along this line. Yet we are doing not a little in Greensboro, Selma, South Montgomery, and at other weak points. But these chrches bid fair to be self-sustaining in a few years and the board will turn the helping hand to other needy points.

But it is manifest that as churches are planted and grown in the several points of destitution, this line of work is gradually disappearing and will ultimately cease when every community has a Baptist church.

The line now most largely engaging the energies of our people is evangelistic work. There are in the several sections of the State six evangelists—Bro. Preston in the Southeast, Bro. Anderson in the East, Bro. J. W. Sandlin in the North and Northwest, Bro. Parker in the Southeast. These brethern, selected because of their fitness for this work, are now operating under the appointment and council of the Board. This work is comparatively new, but has already proven itself both wise and timely. It is almost self-sustaining, and every indication is that the number of men should be doubled very soon. These evangelists go wherever occasion most requires, preaching the gospel, enlisting the churches in missionary work, interesting the brethern in each other, fostering and conserving the fellowship of the saints, educating our people in missionary work and the work of the Lord in general, and building up the body of Christ. We have every reason to be grateful to God for his blessing on this work. It is doing great good.

The work of the colporteur is now very much displaced by other more remunerative lines of work. Besides, the ease with which books may be gotten through the trade has relegated the colporteur to only a few less favored sections. This work is now done here and there by the district association in co-operation with the Board.

The care of aged and infirm ministers is a line of work in which our people have reason to blush at their inefficiency.

Their provision for these to whom so many of them owe their very soul's salvation is poor indeed and behind that of their brethern in every other State. Let us awake to our obligation in this matter and send up a gift to those who have spent and been spent to build up the Lord's work. They have labored and we have entered into their labors. Let us not forget that we must minister to them in temporal things while we enjoy the products of their labors.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. H. Longerier, Chairman.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

Your committee on Home Missions, report thus: the field of the Home Mission Board covers the entire South and the Island of Cuba, and there is not a State or Territory within its borders in which the Board has not men preaching the Gospel to the destitute.

Last year the number of its missionaries was 372, which has been increased this year to about 400, these missionaries employ themselves in preaching the Gospel, making religious visits to the sick and needy, establishing Sunday Schools, organizing churches, building houses of worship, and in distributing Bibles and Testaments, tracts and other religious literature. Last year they performed 11,000 weeks of labor, preached 48,500 Sermons in nearly 2,000 different places, reaching with the Word of life probably 250,000 people. They added 9,455 members to their churches. They constituted 139 new churches, built and improved 186 houses of worship, organized 313 Sunday Schools, into which they gathered more than 10,000 children, made 62,000 religions visits, put into homes nearly 3,000 Bibles and Testaments and scattered 650,000 pages of tracts. The work of Home Missions demands and should receive, for its own sake, the support of every lover of his country and his Lord. Of all objects which appeal to christian hearts, there is surely none more important or more imperative than that of carrying the gospel to the destitute and neglected of our own land. Upon the prosecution of Home Missions the future welfare of ono country very largely depends. The character of the coming American citizen, the growth and efficiency of our denomination, and the extension of the cause of Christ, are all involved in this great enterprise. But there is another reason why we should engage most heartily in Home Missions. This reason grows out of the bearing of Home Mission work upon the evangelization of the world. Foreign and Home Missions are linked together. The success of that wider enterprise which looks to the redemption of humanity is largely dependent upon the evangelization of our own land. Therefore we should aid and encourage Home Mission work.

Respectfully Submitted,

R. F. Sumner, Chairman.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Your committee on Foreign missions beg leave to report, that from our observation on the subject, we feel that we can state that God has graciously and abundantly blessed the efforts of his people in spreading the joyful news of salvation through a crucified Christ throughout the remotest corners of earth. We rejoice that whenever the glad tidings are proclaimed, religious liberty and civilization have taken the place of fanaticism and barbarism. God has blessed the work of Baptist Missionaries, although they have too often been compelled not only to fight the black idolatry of the nations, but the errors and superstitions of those who under the guise of Christ have sought to delude those who were hungering for the pure word. We call upon every church in this Association to come to the help of the Lord against the mighty. We can, by our financial aid, willingly made, by God's help, assist in holding up the hands of our noble brethern, who are holding aloft the blood-stained banner of the cross in the darkest portions of the world. We recommend that each church of this Association do take greater interest in this work, and that at our next session a larger number of letters will indicate that this suggestion has been more generally complied with here in Alabama.

Something over $124,000 was contributed during the last Conventional year, which enabled the Board to report out of debt at the last meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention. 701 converts were baptised on the Foreign field last Conventional year.

Respectfully Submitted,

H. G. Amerson,

Chairman.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

We your Executive Committee submit the following report:

We your Committee have done nothing during this Associational year.

In the first place, we have not had any financial means to operate with, and soon after the appointment of our committee we had misfortune to lose by death two of our worthy and efficient members, to wit: Brothers D. J. Files and D. H. Clifton, and while we have not had a meeting of the committee during this Associational year, we hope to have a full meeting of the committee in the beyond.

We your committee recommend to this Association that it make an application to the State Board of Missions for the appointment of an Evangelist for this section of Alabama, to be located in our midst, whose entire time shall be spent in the evangelistic work,

and that we pledge to said State Board the hearty moral and financial support of this Association and of the various churches composing it for the maintainance of such Evangelist.

J. F. Appling,
Chairman Committee.

PLEDGES FOR MISSIONS.

Jasper	$100.00	Liberty Grove	$3.00
Carbon Hill	25 00	Berry Station	10 00
Oakman	25 00	Mt. Joy	10 00
Samaria	10 00	Mt. Carmel	5 00
Pleasant Grove	10 00	Pleasant Field	2 00
New Prospect	5 00	Providence	10 00
Bethlehem	3 00	Saragossa	5 00
Coal City	5 00	Sulphur Springs	5 00
Mt. Zion	5 00	Townley	5 00
Union Grove	2 00		
		Total	$245.00

Report on Orphans Home was read by Bro. R. V. Goss, was spoken to by several brethern and then adopted.

REPORT ON ORPHANS HOME.

Its name is Louis Short Baptist Widows and Orphans Home of Alabama.

The first step taken towards its Establishment was when Mrs. M. L. B. Woodson, made known to the State Baptist Convention in Nov. 1890, that she would give all her real Estate, for the maintainance of a Baptist Widows and Orphans Home in Ala. The property to be available after her death.

The home was temporarily located at Evergreen Jan. 16th. 93. the present Finl. Sec. being ask to take the management of it. Without remmneration, he being the pastor at Evergreen.

March 10th. 1893, in a small rented house, the home was opened to receive its first inmates. By Novemeber of that year we had received 22 children, and the trustees decided to locate the Home permanently.

After duly advertising for bids for a location, Evergreen was chosen and property purchased, consisting of 80 acres of land lying on Main Street, 30 acres of which was in cultivation, 30 in pasture and 20 in woods.

The buildings were a ten room brick house, and three tenant houses.

The purchase price was $5,000. which with interest on the deferred payments amounted to $5,400.33 All has been paid.

The boys are taught to do farm work, and the girls do various kinds of house work. All that are old enough, attend the Southwest Alabama Agricultural School, where no tuition is charged, the matriculation and incidental fees amounting to $5.00 to $10.00 per year for each pupil. All attend Sunday School. The current expenses amount to about $6.00 per month for each child. Since the Home was started there have been gathered into it 49 girls and 41 boys, and out of it have gone by apprenticeship two boys; returned to their people seven boys and seven girls; by adoption eleven boys and eleven girls; irregularly two boys; by death one boy; leaving in the home eighteen boys and thirty one girls.

These children came from 20 counties, as follows:

Chambers	1.	Jefferson	12.	Pike	2.
Conecuh	2.	Lee	6.	Russell	1.
Covington	8.	Limestone	1.	Talledega	8.
Barbour	3.	Morengo	4.	Tallapoosa	2.
Bibb	2.	Monroe	4.	Tuscaloosa	9.
Butler	3.	Morgan	3.	Walker	6.
Escambia	11.	Montgomery	2.		

Important improvements have been added to the home by which we have another brick building with eleven rooms, and all the former house thoroughly renovated and much improved; adequate water works, and a complete system of sanitation.

These improvements cost about $3,500 all of which has been paid except about $400. We also owe about $400. on current expense account.

We hope to dedicate this Home Oct. 20th. Will our friends send us money to pay these balances, so we can offer it to the Lord free of debt?

Since the preparation of this report six more have been received.

W. B. Earnest,
Chairman.

A collection was taken for the Orphans Home amounting to $16 15.

REPORT ON AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS.

Your committee on aged and infirm Ministers, find none on that list now in the bonds of this Association. We find reported in the

On Home Missions: W. P. Smith, James Rutledge and J. P. Mooney.

On Foreign Missions: J. I. McCollum, J. N. Cannon and N. Thacker.

On Denominational Education: Wm. B. Earnest, G. G. Bagwell and E. L. Thomas.

On Religious Literature: J. F. Appling, M. L. Jones and L. F. Gammon.

On Orphans Home: Jno. C. Danniel, Wilburn Manasco and W. F. Sides.

On Prayer and Prayer-meeting: L. H. Baker, Isaac Brown and A. A. Sides.

On aged and infirm Ministers: Jas. Hilton, G. D. O'Rear and Samuel Appling.

Executive Committee; J. H. Longerier, G. D. O'Rear, R. V. Goss, J. F. Appling and W. B. Earnest.

On Baptist Young Peoples Union: G. C. Anderson, Alphonso Watts, Alvin Douglas and R. F. Sumner.

MISCELLANEOUS

On motion the clerk was allowed the Associational funds for his services.

On motion the clerk was authorized to pay all money received for Bro. L. B. Harbin to his widow.

On motion, the clerk was authorized to have as many minutes printed as the minute fund will pay for.

The following resolutions were adopted.

Resolved that the most hearty thanks of this Association be and are hereby extended to the members of the Baptist Church at Carbon Hill for the use of its beautiful house; And to the citizens of Carbon Hill and vicinity, for most beautiful entertainment, and to our good sister Mrs. Geo. Anderson for her faithful services at the organ.

Resolved that we tender our thanks to the Moderator and Clerk for the manner in which they have conducted this session of the Association.

G. D. O'Rear.

REPORT O N NOMINATIONS.

Your Committee report: To preach the Associational Sermon next year F. H. Watkins, alternate J. I. McCollum. To preach the Sunday 11 O'clock Sermon, to be supplied.

Delegates to State Convention: J. S. Watts, G. D. O'Rear, J. H. McGuire, S. W. Vice, W. F. Sides, R. A. Baker, R. V. Goss, S. Lacy, Jas. Hilton and H. G. Amerson. Alternates: W. R. Sawyer, A. S. Sparks, W. B. Appling, G. G. Bagwell, R. F. Sumner, Geo. Anderson, L. P. Kiker, J. C. Manasco. Delegate to Southern Baptist Convention: J. H. Longerier alternate W. B. Earnest.

Respectfully Submitted,
W. R. Sawyer, Chr'm

Report of S. S. Convention which held its last session with the Jasper Baptist Church, July 30th. and 31st. 1898.

Sunday Schools were represented from Jasper, Oakman, New Prospect, Liberty Grove, Parrish, Carbon Hill, High Hill school house, Mt. Joy, New Hope, Mt. Carmel and Samaria churches.

Next Convention to be held with Carbon Hill church, commencing on Saturday before the 5th. Sunday in July, 1899. Committee on programe: J. H. McGuire, J. S. Watts and W. R. Sawyer.

W. G. Davis, President.
J. S. Watts, Sec'y.

The Moderator announced standing Committees to wit:

On Sunday Schools: W. R. Sawyer, J. A. Huggins and R. V. Goss.

On Sunday School Organization: J. S. Watts, W. G. Davis, H. G. Amerson and Willis M. Jackson.

On Temperance: Leroy Williams, D. W. Brown and Wm. Randolph.

On State Missions: J. H. Longerier, Jno. L. Wiit and R. A. Baker.

Paid Clerk	13 55
Total Amt. paid out	87 93
Balance on hand	$1. 25

Respectfully Submitted,
J. S. Watts,
Treasurer.

Aponted J. S. Watts treasurer for the ensuing year.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

Your Committee on Finance submit the following report :

Rec'd for State Missions	$8.25
,, ,, Home ,,	4 75
,, ,, Foreign ,,	11 65
,, ,, Orphanage	8 10
,, ,, Minutes	24 20
,, ,, Associational purposes	8 95
,, ,, Bro. L. B. Harbin	4 45
	$70 35

CREDITS

Paid to J. S. Watts for State Missions	$8 25
,, ,, ,, Home ,,	4 75
,, ,, ,, Foreign ,,	11 65
,, ,, ,, Orphanage	8 10
,, ,, ,, Minutes	24 20
,, ,, ,, Associational purposes	8 95
,, ,, ,, Bro. L. B. Harbin	4 45
	$70 35

Respectfully Submitted,
G. D. O'Rear, Chairman.

letters to the Association $14 15. paid to Bro. Harbin and his widow, since our last session.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jno. C. Danniel,
Chairman.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS AND REQUSTS.

We your committee on documents and requests make the following report: that there is nothing filed with the clerk that claims our attention except the request from Pleasant Grove, Oakman and Union Grove churches, asking for the next Association to meet with their churches. We recommend that the next Association meet with Union Grove church, seven miles South of Corona mines.

Respectfully Submitted,
H. G. Amerson, Chairman.

Treasurer's report read and adopted Sept. 26th. 1898.

Rec'd. for L. B. Harbin	$14 00
,, ,, Alsey Johnson	3 32
,, ,, Berry S. S.	2 20
,, Finance com. State Missions	5 30
,, ,, ,, Home ,,	0 25
,, ,, ,, Foreign ,,	3 35
,, ,, ,, for minutes	22 70
,, ,, ,, ,, Ass. purposes	13 55
,, for ministerial Education	3 41
,, Sunday col. for Missions	21 10
Total Receipts,	$89 18

Paid L. B. Harbin	14 00
,, Alsey Johnson	3 32
,, Berry S. S. (Bro. Gammon)	2 20
,, M. M. Wood Min. Education	3 41
,, R. J. Willing, Foreign Miss.	3 35
,, W. C. Bledsoe State ,,	5 30
,, ,, ,, Home ,,	0 25
,, for printing (500) minutes	20 00
,, for paper and postage	1 45
,, W. C. Bledsoe missions	21 10

Resolved that the letter read to the Association by our present Moderator from Col. Wm. B. Appling our former moderator be incorparated in the minutes of the Association.

Jasper, Ala., Sept. 24th., 1898.

To the North River
Baptist Association.

Dear Brothers:—

Owing to my having contracted a violent cold about three weeks ago, from effects of which I was sick and have not recovered, and which has seriously effected my throat and rendered me subject to contract cold from almost any sort of change in my location and surroundings, I have yielded to the earnest solicitations of my wife and family to forego the pleasure and, if I were well, the duty of attending this session of our Association.

I am confident that you will make a wise selection of a Moderator to succeed me, as we have abundant material from which to select one.

I feel greatly honored by you in the past, and I again thank you for having so often elected me as your Moderator.

Respectfully and Prayerfully,
Wm. B. Appling

REPORT OF DECEASED BRETHREN

Dear Brethren:—

We your Committee, with much regret, but with submission to the Divine Will chronicle the death of five of our members since our last assemblage—

Rev. L. B. Harbin, who stood as the Peer of this As-
ciation, as a faithful servant of God He was the Moder-
tor of this Body for more than thirty years, and was one
the Fathers of the Baptist cause in this country. Breth-
ren we miss him, but he has gone to his reward. M
Rev. Alsey Johnson, who was a Minister of the Gosp
but a few years, but was held in esteem of those who kn
him best, as a faithful man of God.

With these Brethren— D. J. Files and D. H. Clift
who were members of the Executive Committee of t
Association. They were both spotless characters a
wide awake to the interest of our Denomination.

Also Brethren— H. L. Watlington, who with th
was a lover of the cause of Christ. And was no happ
than when in His services. Brethren all these are go
and now it falls on us to carry on the work which t
have left to our charge.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. H. McGuire.
Chairm

On motion the clerk was authorized to have the C
stitution, Articles of Faith and Rules of Decor
printed in the Minutes.

On motion, the reading of minutes was dispenced wit
except roll call and marking absentes.

After singing, "God be with you," and taking the part-
ing hand, the Association adjourned to meet with Union
Grove Church, Fayette County, four miles South of
Alta. On Saturday before the fourth Sunday in Sep-
tember, 1899.

J. H. McGuire,
Moderator.

J. S. Watts,
Clerk.

CONSTITUTION.

We, the Baptist Churches of Jesus Christ, are desirous of a reciprocal union; we, therefore, propose to maintain the Order and Rules of the Association, according to the following plan:

We believe that the churches of Christ are mutually independent of each other, and that the congregational form of church government should be inviolably preserved; yet being convinced of the utility of friendly intercourse and pious councils on the principles of reciprocal advantage and Christian love, we hold it to be the duty of the churches to pay respect on these principles to the advice of the Association.

1. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our Union, who, on producing letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to seats; the letters so produced shall express the condition of their churches respectively, viz: The number in fellowship, the number received by baptism, by restoration, dismissed, excommunicated, and died, since the last Association, which letters shall be read and the delegates' names enrolled.

2. The members thus chosen and convened shall be known by the name of North River Baptist Association.

3. We declare ourselves a missionary body on the Bible plan. The Association may appoint an Executive Committee, whose duty it shall be to employ a missionary, or missonaries, to travel and preach the gospel to the destitute in her bounds, and to enlarge the field of labor, if necessary; and to take charge of all the money paid over by the several churches for the support of the mission, also said treasurer shall make a correct report at each and every annual session of this body, of all money received, expenditures and the surplus on hand, if any, which report shall be affixed to the Minutes of the Association.

4. The Association thus formed, shall choose, by ballot, a Moderator and Clerk, who shall serve one year.

5. This body shall have on coercive power to lord it over God's heritage, or to infringe on any of the internal priviledges or rights of the churches in our Union; but shall only be considered an advisory council in all matters respecting their internal concerns.

6. To give the churches the best advice she can in all matters of difficulty, and if the Union should be broken between any of the churches, to inquire into the cause of the breach, and use her best endeavors to remove the difficulty; but if the breach cannot be repaired, to withdraw from any church or churches which they may look upon to be unsound in principle, or immoral in practice, until the same be reclaimed.

7. To take up no case of any church in our Union without the consent of a majority of the churches.

8. Newly constituted or dismissed churches may be received into our Union by their representatives, as before stated, and the Moderator shall signify the same by giving the right hand of fellowship.

9. The Association, when convened, shall be governed by such rules as she may adopt. She may adjourn from day to day until she shall have finished all the business that may be brought before her.

10. Every church numbering fifty, members, or less, shall be entitled to three lay members as delegates; and for every twenty-five members over fifty, one lay member as delegate, and elect any ordained minister, in addition thereto, that she may hold in her membership, if she choose.

11. To have the Minutes of the Association read and altered, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association rises, and have them printed, if she think proper.

12. The Association shall in all cases be governed by a majority of the members.

13. Voting shall be confined exclusively to the body in all acts respecting their internal concerns.

14. To amend the plan or form of government at any time when a majority of the Union shall deem it necessary.

DECLARATION OF FAITH.

On the Scriptures.—We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore is and remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the

supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

2. Of the True God.—That there is one true and living God, whose name is Jehovah, the maker and supreme ruler of Heaven and Earth, inexpressibly glorious in holiness; worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love; revealed under the personal and relative distinction of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost; equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious office in the great work of redemption.

Of the Fall of man.—That man was created in a state of holiness, under the law of his Maker, but voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state, in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but by choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness, required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of Satan, and their own sinful passions, and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defence or excuse.

4. Of the Way of Salvation.—That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, who took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the law by his personal obedience, and made atonement for our sins by his death, being arisen from the dead he is enthroned in Heaven, and uniting in this wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection, is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and all sufficient Saviour.

5. Of Justification.—That the great Gospel Blessing, which Christ of his fulness bestows on such as believe in him, is justification; that justification consists in the pardon of sin and the promise of eternal life, on principles of righteousness, that it is not bestowed in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through its own redemption and righteousness, that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

9. Of the Freeness of Salvation.—That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial and obedient faith, and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, except his own voluntary refusal

to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ; which refusal will subject him to an aggravated condemnation.

7. Of Grace and Regeneration.—That in order to be saved, we must be regenerated and born again; that the regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind and is affected in a manner above our comprehension or calculation, by the power of the Holy Spirit, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel, and that its proper evidence is our voluntary obedience found in the holy fruit which we bring forth to the glory of God.

8. Of God's Purpose of Grace.—That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which he regenerates, sanctifies, and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the moral agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely wise, holy and unchangeable, that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of His free mercy, that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it is ascertained by its effects in all who believe in the Gospel; it is the foundation of Christian assurance; and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands and deserves our utmost diligence.

9. Of the Perseverance of Saints.—That such only are real believers as endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superfical professors; that a special providence watches over their welfare, and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvtion.

10. Harmony of the Law and Gospel.—That the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is holy, just and good; and the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from their love of sin; to deliver them from which, and restore them through a Mediator to unfeigned obedience to the Holy Law, is one great end of the Gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of His visible church.

11. Of a Gospel Church.—That a visible Church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel; observing the ordinance of Christ; governed by His Laws, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His word; that its only proper officers are bishops

, and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and re defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

12. Of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.—That Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, in the name of the Father, Son and Spirit; to show forth in solemn and beautiful emblem our faith in a crucified, buried and risen Saviour; that it is prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation, and the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church, by the use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ, preceded always by solemn self-examination.

13. Of the Christian Sabbath.—That the first day of the eek is the Lord's day, or Christian Sabbath, and is to be ept sacred to religious purposes by abstaining from all secular labor and recreation by devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public, and by preparation for the rest which remaineth for the people of God.

14. Of Civil Government.—That civil government is of divine appointment, for the interest and good of human society; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except in things opposed to the will of the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of conscience and the prince of the kings of the earth.

15. Of the Righteous and Wicked.—That there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such as only through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of God, are truly righteous in his esteem, while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in His sight wicked, and under the curse, and this distinction holds among men in and after death.

16. Of the World to Come.—That the end of this world is apptoaching, and that at the last day Christ will descend from Heaven and raise the dead from the grave to final retrisbution; that a separation will then take place, that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in Heaven or Hell, on principles of righteousness.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1st. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

2nd. But one person shall speak at a time, and he shall rise to his feet and address the Moderator.

3rd. No member shall be interrupted while speaking unless he depart from the question, or use words of personal reflection.

4th. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except withdrawn by him who made it.

5th. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided or withdrawn before another is offered.

6th. When any question is taken up by this Association, after allowing time for debate, the Moderaton shall take the question by yeas and nays, or otherwise; and the decision thus made shall be announced by the Moderator immediately.

7th. No person shall depart from the service of the Association without leave of the Moderator.

8th. No person shall speak more than twice on the same subject without leave obtained.

9th. The appellation of brother shall be used in our addresses one to another.

10th. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privileges as any other member, provided he appoints some other member to his seat while speaking or otherwise, but shall not vote unless the Association be equally divided.

11th. Any member violating the above rules may be reproved as the Association may think proper, only on the day the offense shall have occurred.

Financial Exhibit of the North River Association for the Year 1898.

CHURCH	State Missions	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Associational	L. B. Harbin	Ministerial Education	Orphan's Home	Minutes	Pastor's Salary	Repairs and New Buildings	Other Expenses	Totals	Value of Property
Bethabara	1 00		1 25	25				85	16 00			19 25	
Bethlehem				50	1 00			1 00	25 00	150 00	5 00	182 50	300 00
Bethel not represented													
Berry Station	75		2 00				80	80	26 00	18 60	6 00	54 35	800 00
Bethpage not represented													
Carbon Hill	2 00	2 00	1 00	50			5 00	1 50	105 40	35 00	109 27	261 67	700 00
Coal City				50				1 00				1 50	
Jasper	45 50	35 00	66 99	2 00	10 00		52 50	3 00	660 00	164 50	209 62	1190 11	2000 00
Lebanon not represented													
Liberty Grove		1 00					4 15	1 00	60 80			66 95	
Liberty				50				1 00	14 65	3 25		19 40	150 00
Mount Zion			3 20		5 00			1 00	20 00			29 20	
Mount Joy			1 20		95			75	13 32		1 86	18 08	
Mount Carmel	75							50				1 25	
New Hope								75	15 00			15 75	
New Prospect	25	25	70	30	2 50		4 15	85	40 00		3 00	52 00	
Oakman	5 48	5 48	5 48	2 00	16 05	46 00	5 00	2 00	110 00		68 00	265 49	1200 00
Oregonia													
Pleasant Grove			5 55	1 00				2 00				8 55	
Pleasant Field	1 00			25				75				2 00	
Providence					9 00			2 10				11 10	
Parrish													
Saragossa			75				1 00	75				2 50	
Samaria				60	7 10		1 00	1 10	40 98			50 78	
Sulphur Springs	1 50	1 50	2 50					50	10 00			16 00	
Townley	1 00			50				50				2 00	
Union Grove			1 00	05				50				1 55	
Totals	59 23	46 23	91 52	8 95	51 60	46 00	73 60	24 20	1097 15	370 75	402 73	2271 96	5150 00

STATISTICS OF THE NORTH RIVER ASSOCIATION, 1898

CHURCH	COUNTY	PASTOR	CLERK	CLERK'S POSTOFFICE	Membership Last Reported
Bethabara	Fayette	W. G. Baker	W. A. Kimbrell	Berry Station	37
Bethlehem	Tuscaloosa	I. L. Collins	J. W. Popwell	" "	57
Bethel		not represented			
Berry Station	Fayette	A. Kilgore	B. F. Freeman	Berry Station	24
Bethpage		not represented			
Carbon Hill	Walker	J. I. McCollum	J. W McCarty	Carbon Hill	95
Coal City	"	J. R. Sartain	J. W Randolph	Jasper	28
Jasper	"	J. H. Longerier	S. Lacy	"	200
Lebanon		not represented			
Liberty Grove	Walker	C. C. Collins	L. L. McCullars		69
Liberty	"	C. C. Collins	S. O. Howell	Nauvoo	44
Mount Zion	"	Jas. T. Jones	W. R. Thacker	Patton	63
Mount Joy	Fayette	Wm. Patton	H. G. Amerson	Toledo	49
Mount Carmel	Walker	J. W. Rogers	Jno. T. Morris	Cordova	53
New Hope	Tuscaloosa	L. H. Baker	E. H. Bagwell	Wiley	56
New Prospect	Walker	G. W. Gibson	Houston Brown	Jasper	110
Oakman	"	F. H. Watkins	J. S. Watts	Oakman	132
Oregonia		not represented			
Pleasant Grove	Walker	Wm. Patton	W. F. Sides	Oakman	197
Providence	"	none	W. M. Watts	"	107
Pleasant Field	"	Wm. Patton	J. T. Grace	"	23
Parrish	"	not represented			
Saragossa	"	C. C. Collins	C. S. Ferguson	Saragossa	
Samaria	"	W. P. Smith	R. F. Sumner	Cordova	91
Sulpher Springs	Fayette	A. Kilgore	J. E- Kilgore	Corona	26
Townley	Walker	Wm. Patton	Wm. Manasco	Townley	70
Union Grove	Fayette	A. Kilgore	S. Wilcut	Toledo	33
Totals					1564

STATISTICS OF THE NORTH RIVER ASSOCIATION, 1898, Continued.

CHURCH	INCREASE BY			DECR. BY				SUNDAY SCHOOL					
	Baptism	Letter	Voucher	Restoration	Letter	Exclusion	Death	Present Membership	Officers and Teacher	Pupils	SUPERINTENDENT'S NAME AND POST OFFICE	Preaching Sabbaths	Reports Prayer Mt'ng	Reports Revival
Bethabara		3		2	2	2		34				4		
Bethlehem	1			1	14	3		12	2	25	not given	2		
Bethel														
Berry Station		7			3		1	27	3	40	L. F. Gammon, Berry Station			
Bethpage														
Carbon Hill	4	2	1		4	2		96	7	90	G. C. Anderson, Carbon Hill	2	1	1
Coal City	28	16				2		70			not given	4		1
Jasper	1	17			8	5	3	202	12	150	J. F. Appling, Jasper	4	1	
Lebanon														
Liberty Grove	2	3			6	5	2	63			W. H. Sides, Prospect	3		
Liberty	2	5			3	1	1	49						
Mount Zion	9				1	1	2	68				2		
Mount Joy	12	9			4		1	65	3	36	S. A. Baker, Toledo	3	1	1
Mount Carmel								55			not given	1		
New Hope	1				1			53			not given			
New Prospect	9	3			6	1		110	4	50	not given	1	1	
Oakman	8				10	1	2	131	8	75	J. S. Watts, Oakman	1	1	1
Oregonia														
Pleasant Grove	6	1		2	5		1	186			J. E. Grace	2	1	1
Providence					5		1	99	4	40	S. E. Walton, Oakman	3		
Pleasant Field		5			1			31			Sunday School part of the year			
Parrish														
Saragossa	4	9						22						
Samaria	2	25					2	116	5	35	J. A. Sumner, Cordova			
Sulphur Springs	2	5			1	2		30						
Townley	3	2				1		74						
Union Grove	2			1				37						
Totals	96	112	1	6	74	26	16	1660	18	541			6	5